



Faith – Hope – Love –  
Since 1972

# Immanuel Weekly News

## Sunday 1st January 2023

Our Minister is Revd Robert Jordan



Swindon Old Town Ecumenical  
Partnership Established 1969

**We extend a warm welcome to everyone attending worship today**

### Today's Service : 10.30am

#### New Year's Day

Worship conducted by the Minister

Theme: Peace?...Really?

Reading: John 20: 19-23

Chaplain: Mike Gordon

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall at the close of the service, so do stay behind and share some New Year Greetings.

### Next Sunday : 8th January 10.30 am -

Morning family service conducted by the Minister will include the sacrament of communion

Chaplain: Liz Gibney

### Prayers for

- Peace and justice for all people
- New opportunities to share God's love
- Those experiencing tough times
- Elders' meeting
- The Old Town Partnership of Churches

### Christmas Day

For those not with us last week, it was wonderful to welcome about 40 people to the



service, where we were able to share the joys of Good News, gifts received and the challenge ahead. Below a photo of both Geoff and Robert in their

Christmas splendour... (Robert felt he needed to advertise the forthcoming

pantomime and fancied himself as Prince Charming!)



(NO, its not a real six-pack just an apron he got for Christmas!)

### Tea and Chat: advanced Notice:

The next tea and chat will be on Tuesday 10th January. All welcome.

**Family News:** Quite a few Immanuel folk succumbed to an unpleasant cold over the Christmas period, but we hope it didn't spoil the festivities.

Congratulations to Luana and William who married on Wednesday this week... and so good that Mayra was able to be here in the UK from Argentina to enjoy the family celebration.



### **Our Memorial Book**

Quite a few names in our book this week, and we remember him and pray for the families and friends who mourn the passing of..... **Anthony Armitage, Gladys Spruce, Mary Collett, Frank Collett, Madge Millman, and Betty Griffiths**

### **Save your used postage stamps**

Please save your used postage stamps. We use them to support CLIC Sargent which is a worthwhile charity who help children with cancer.

If stamps can be trimmed with at least 1/4 inch margin around them and put in the box in the Chapel. Of course, stamps are not just for Christmas but collected throughout the year.

### **Change of Secretary**

For those not at the last Church Meeting, we were sorry to hear that Steve has stood down as church secretary...as yet the elders have not decided who will take on that role.

**Thought for the week:** *"Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding."* – [Albert Einstein](#)

### **Our Prayer for Growth**

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions and power to our

### **Contact us:**

- via our website at [www.immanuelurc.org](http://www.immanuelurc.org)
- on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC](http://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelURC)

If you are new to Immanuel and would like to receive this newsletter by email each week, please email [immanuelweeklynews@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:immanuelweeklynews@yahoo.co.uk) and I will add you to the mailing list. Thanks, Ceri.

witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you  
And in service to our Swindon Community.  
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Old Town Partnership of Churches**

The Bible reading today will also be part of Bath Road Service, and is Christ church theme for the year, so today we are united by a call for peace. The Prayer for Growth comes from Christ Church to invite us all to think together about the present and future of the Church.

And a request from Bath Road Methodist Church which you may like to consider.  
*We are looking for volunteers to help out at Bath Road as part of the Partnership supporting the Government's 'Warm And Welcome Spaces' initiative during January through March.*

*Potential volunteers have said to me, "When will the church be open?" to which I've replied "What time can you do?" It's as simple as that. We're offering a warm space refuge and all that's required of volunteers is to open up, serve teas and coffees and put a few tables and chairs away afterward. Warm Spaces are places where people can gather for free in a warm, safe, welcoming place and maybe enjoy a hot drink and some company. Some may simply be happy to sit and use our wi-fi to surf the internet, or to read a book. Any offering beyond that is down to the enthusiasm of the volunteers!!*